GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5727
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2003
PANCHAYAT SANCHAR SEVA YOJANA
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;NIVEDITA MANE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages covered under the Panchayat Sanchar Seva Yojana in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of villages yet to be covered by this Yojana, State-wise;

(c) whether it is fact that the Yojana is not giving desired result in rural areas;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to make the Yojana successful?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SH THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a) By 31.3.2002 there were 4677 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras opened in villages. State-wise details are given in Annexure.

(b) During the Tenth Five Year Plan, 5000 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras are proposed to be opened in the villages.One Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendra can cover one or more villages in the Panchayat.

(c) Yes, Sir. Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras are opened in villages which do not justify a Branch Post Office as per income norm, subject to demand by the Panchayat for this facility.

(d) Reasons in this regard include availability of alternate and faster modes of communication, restricted product range, lack of interest on the part of the Panchayats in the scheme, need for greater monitoring and control etc.

(e) Efforts have been made by addressing the Chief Secretaries of various States to educate Gram Panchayats to use this facility optimally. Action has been taken to ensure that basic infrastructure is provided for running the services and that there is closer monitoring and supervision.

Annexure

Number of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras opened during Ninth Plan

Sl.No.	Circles	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Total
1	ANDHRA	nil	31	30	60	30	151
2	ASSAM	nil	nil	5	21	135	161
3	BIHAR	nil	17	40	464	570	1091
4	CHHATTISGARH			45	106	99	250
5	DELHI		0	0	0	0	
6	GUJARAT	nil	20	38	68	50	176
7	HARYANA	nil	nil	10	69	70	149
8	HIMACHAL	nil	nil	10	50	55	115
9	J & K		0	12	12	24	
10	JAHRKHAND			4	77	72	153
11	KARNATAKA	nil	10	12	20	18	60
12	KERALA		0	0	0	0	
13	M.P.	nil	55	35	115	175	380
14	MAHRASHTRA	nil	10	62	208	150	430
15	NORTH EAST	nil	nil	5	47	118	170
16	ORISSA	1	29	24	76	19	149
17	PUNJAB	nil	5	20	44	26	95
18	RAJASTHAN	nil	nil	35	77	80	192
19	TAMIL NADU	nil	12	30	80	80	202
20	U.P.	nil	30	62	284	240	616

21	UTTRANCHAL		5	44	43	92
22	W.BENGAL	nil	5	10	6	NIL 21
	TOTAL	1	224	482	1928	2042 4677

No. Target were allotted